



As Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I'm looking forward to bringing the Committee to Little Rock next week for [a field hearing on "Revitalizing Rural America."](#) The hearing will take place Monday, November 23, at 1:00 p.m. and will be hosted by the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service at the Great Hall of the William J. Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock. I hope you will be able to attend.

I will also host a statewide, Agriculture and Business Leadership Breakfast on Tuesday, November 24, to continue the conversation on how we can improve the state's rural and small business economy. The event is scheduled from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. at the Association of Arkansas Counties Board Room, 1415 Third Street, in Little Rock.

Putting our economy back on the right track is my number one priority and I will use my chairmanship to reverse the devastating effects our ailing economy has had on Arkansans.

Just this week, the Committee has been focused on two issues that are critical to getting our economy back on track. On Tuesday, the committee heard from Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and four Arkansas witnesses [at hearing on the reauthorization of child nutrition programs](#). When so many families are struggling with job losses and a poor economy, our child nutrition programs are the safety net for families that allow them to continue to put a healthy meal on the table during these difficult times.

On Wednesday, I chaired my first Agriculture Committee hearing [on financial regulatory reform](#), a first step to passing reform legislation that will strengthen our nation's financial systems and restore confidence to consumers and businesses across Arkansas. [The committee will hold a second hearing](#) on this issue December 2, with Secretary of the Treasury Timothy Geithner scheduled to testify.

Again, I hope you will take part in next week's events in Little Rock and I look forward to hearing from Arkansans on how we can work together to put our economy on the right track toward recovery.

With Arkansas Pride,

[Watch video of this week's committee hearings.](#)



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